

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adeel S. Akhtar on 02/11/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 8: (Currently Amended): The plasma treatment apparatus according to ~~Claim 6~~ Claim 1, wherein the hollow copper tube of the first branching and the hollow copper tube of the second branching are connected by a metal plate and the ferrite core has a circular-ring shape which can be inserted/attached into the hollow copper tube to adjust an impedance value of the transmission system by selecting the number of ferrite cores to be inserted/attached.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3, 7-10, 12-17, 28-32 allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1: Closest prior arts (Yamakoshi et al – US 6,456,010 and Murata et al – US 6,363,881) do not teach claim limitation “at least one inductance adjuster which is removably

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installed in each branch to render substantially equal the characteristic impedance value of each branch connected to the multiple supply points,

wherein each branch comprises a hollow copper tube as an inductor,

each inductance adjuster is a ferrite core which removably encircles the hollow copper tube to adjust an impedance value of the transmission system,

the hollow copper tube of the second branching is smaller in diameter than the hollow copper tube of the first branching, and

the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the second branching is smaller than the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the first branching”.

Claim 15: Closest prior arts (Yamakoshi et al – US 6,456,010 and Murata et al – US 6,363,881) do not teach claim limitation “at least one inductance adjuster which is removably installed in at least one branch to render substantially equal the characteristic impedance value of each branch connected to the multiple supply points,

wherein each branch comprises a hollow copper tube as an inductor,

each inductance adjuster is a ferrite core which removably encircles the hollow copper tube to adjust an impedance value of the transmission system,

the hollow copper tube of the tertiary branching is smaller in diameter than the hollow copper tube of the secondary branching, and

the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the tertiary branching is smaller than the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the secondary branching”.

Claims 16: Closest prior arts (Yamakoshi et al – US 6,456,010 and Murata et al – US 6,363,881) do not teach claim limitation “at least one inductance adjuster which is removably

installed in at least one branch to render substantially equal the characteristic impedance value of each branch connected to the multiple supply points,

wherein each branch comprises a hollow copper tube as an inductor,

each inductance adjuster is a ferrite core which removably encircles the hollow copper tube to adjust an impedance value of the transmission system,

the hollow copper tube of the second branching is smaller in diameter than the hollow copper tube of the first branching, and

the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the second branching is smaller than the ferrite core encircling the hollow copper tube of the first branching”.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAKESH K. DHINGRA whose telephone number is (571)272-5959. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 -6:00 (Monday - Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on (571)-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Rakesh K Dhingra/
Examiner, Art Unit 1792

/Parviz Hassanzadeh/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792